

(H.P.T) of 10 K.V. in Ajmer during the 8th five year plan and 8 crore rupees were set aside for this project but even after completion of 8th plan the T.V. Transmitter has not been set up which is unfortunate.

The Central Government is therefore requested that in order to benefit lakhs of T.V. viewers and bring the Doordarshan programmes within the reach of all the people, a High power T.V. Transmitter should be set up without further delay at Taragarh hill in Ajmer city which has the credit of achieving the goal of cent percent literacy first of all in the Northern India.

(ii) Need to provide funds for widening of National Highway between Mumbai and Bangalore via Pune

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL (Erandole) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a National Highway connects Mumbai with Bangalore via Pune. The State Government of Maharashtra had made a request to the Central Government for widening of this National Highway and after getting the sanction of the Central Government, the work regarding widening of this National Highway is likely to commence soon. The Government of Maharashtra also has to meet a part of the expenditure likely to be incurred on this work, but the State Government does not have adequate funds. Hence the State Government proposes to purchase land of farmers, land-owners and other persons at Government rates and sell the same at higher rate so as to raise money to invest it in this project. However the farmers whose land are proposed to be acquired by the State Government will face the problem of earning their livelihood.

The Central Government is therefore urged upon to bear the entire expenses of widening of the National Highway so that the farmers and the land-owners are not deprived of their land.

(iii) Need to open an LPG outlet at Pimpalner in Sakri Tehsil in Maharashtra

DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL (Dhule) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no Gas Agency in Pimpalner, Tehsil Sakri which falls under my constituency, Dhule in Maharashtra. There are several Government and private offices as well as academic institutions, wherein thousands of people are working. The population of the area is about 25,000 and there is acute shortage of fuel due to which people of this area are facing difficulties.

The Union Government is therefore urged upon to open a LPG outlet at Pimpalner under Tehsil Sakri in Maharashtra at the earliest.

(iv) Need to take effective steps for providing employment to Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (Salumber) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the poor labourers and unemployed youths of the tribal areas of Rajasthan are looking for job opportuni-

ties. I want that job opportunities should be prevented to the poor labourers and tribal youths by generating employment opportunities in the tribal areas of Rajasthan. The Union Government should provide funds for setting up small scale as well as large scale industries at Udaipur, Dungarpur and Banswara for development of this region and also for providing employment to poor tribals for their livelihood. Besides, ponds should be dug up in order to provide irrigational facilities to the tribals so that they could make use of their land. The Government should make special provision in the budget in order to improve the financial position of the tribal area so that standard of living of these tribals may also be uplifted like their counterparts living in urban areas.

The Central Government is urged upon to take effective steps in this regard.

(v) Need to extend Gaya-Dihri passenger Train upto Garhwa Road in Bihar

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Aurangabad and Palamu districts, of Bihar state are extremely backward and terrorist infested areas. Only one passenger train 127 Up and 128 Dn. is being run on the Dihri-Barwadihys line of Eastern Railways with only four bogies. The train is always overcrowded and the passengers are forced to travel on foot board due to which accidents take place quite frequently. On the other hand Gaya-Dihri passenger train remains halted at Dihri on-Son for nearly 10 hours daily.

The Union Government is, therefore, urged upon to extend the Gaya-Dihri passenger train upto Garhwa road and get 10 bogies attached with the 127 Up and 128 Dn passenger train.

(vi) Need to improve the Supply position of LPG in Jalpaiguri and other adjoining Districts in West Bengal

[English]

PROF JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is an acute crisis of LPG connections and also the supply of LPG cylinders to the consumers in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Cooch Behar and Uttar and Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal. A good number of applications seeking LPG connections have been pending since long in these districts. Irregular supply of LPG cylinders is creating much resentment among the consumers. There is no bottling plant in this region as a result of which consumers are facing difficulties.

I urge upon the Central Government to take necessary steps to increase the LPG dealership in this region and also to set up LPG bottling plants at the Industrial Complex of Raninagar in the district of Jalpaiguri and also in the district of Coochbehar and other districts of West Bengal.

(vii) Need to conduct a Survey of Kolli Hills in Rajaji District, Tamil Nadu to Harness Medicinal Herbs

SHRI K. KANDASAMY (Rasipuram) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at present the natural herbs and medicinal

herbs available in abundance in Kolli Hills in Rajaji district, Tamil Nadu are not being properly harnessed. This natural wealth of medicines which is valuable for human beings is being taken away by foreigners without permission from the authorities. I request the Central Government, especially the Ministry of Health to take urgent action to survey these hills and to make use of this natural wealth by harnessing these herbs for human consumption.

14.52 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET 1997-98- DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1997-98 for which four hours have been recommended.

Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1997-98 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 1997-98 have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1998 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16."

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 13.3.97	Amount of Demand submitted to the Vote of the House
1	2	3	4
1.	Railway Bord	6,00,76,000	30,03,82,000
2.	Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)	28,23,30,000	141,16,52,000
3.	General Superintendence and Services on Railways	201,62,50,000	1008,12,50,000
4.	Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works	392,87,93,000	1964,39,67,000
5.	Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power	222,81,85,000	1114,09,25,000
6.	Pepairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons	405,15,66,000	2025,78,28,000
7.	Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and Equipment	209,22,22,000	1046,11,08,000
8.	Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock & Equipment	319,90,98,000	1599,54,91,000
9.	Operating Expenses - Traffic	1324,39,10,000	2991,95,47,000
10.	Operating Expenses - Fuel	744,69,11,000	3723,45,55,000
11.	Staff Welfare and Amenities	147,21,59,000	736,07,97,000
12.	Miscellaneous Working Expenses	182,75,71,000	913,78,58,000
13.	Provident Found, Pension and other Retirement Benefits	418,84,00,000	2094,19,99,000
14.	Appropriation to Funds	1177,66,67,000	4406,33,33,000